

*Swadlincote District
Urban District Council.*

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR 1900.

John Hamilton, M.D.

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SWADLINCOTE
DISTRICT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Report

FOR 1900.

Swadlincote,

February 7th, 1901.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Annual Report for 1900, I would commence by saying that I have estimated the population of the District—up to the middle of last year—at 16,106.

The total number of deaths was 233; viz.: 106 males and 127 females, giving a death-rate for the year of 14·46 per 1,000.

Death-rate for 1896 ...	13·47	} per 1,000.
„ „ 1897 ...	14·98	
„ „ 1898 ...	18·12	
„ „ 1899 ...	16·58	

The deaths registered from zymotic causes were 44. I have included amongst these, deaths arising from diarrhœa, whooping cough, and enteric. The death-rate from all these causes was 2·731 per 1,000.

The death-rate from zymotic causes was in

1896 ...	1·02	} per 1,000.
1897 ...	1·40	
1898 ...	3·41	
1899 ...	3·10	

The total number of births registered was 642; viz.: 322 males and 320 females; the birth-rate for the year was 39·86 per 1,000.

Compared with 1896 ...	39·79	} per 1,000.
„ „ 1897 ...	37·85	
„ „ 1898 ...	41·37	
„ „ 1899 ...	40·82	

This equals a *net* increase during the year of 216 males and 193 females.

Death-Rate for the Swadlincote District Urban District Council as required by the Local Government Act, 1894, at subjoined ages.

Name of Disease.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 & upwards.
Small Pox	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Measles	5 ... 2	3 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Scarlet Fever... ..	6 ... 0	3 ... 2	1 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Whooping Cough ...	13 ... 8	5 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup ...	1 ... 0	0 ... 1	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Croup	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
FEVER. { Typhus	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
{ Enteric	1 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 1	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
{ Other Continued...	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Epidemic Influenza ...	3 ... 1	0 ... 0	0 ... 2	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Cholera	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Plague	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Diarrhœa	4 ... 4	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0
Entertis	8 ... 3	2 ... 0	0 ... 2	0 ... 0	0 ... 2	0 ... 1	0
Puerperal Fever ...	1 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 1	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0

Name of Disease	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 & upwards.
Erysipelas	2 ...	1 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	1 ...
Other Septic Diseases	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...
Phthisis	13 ...	0 ...	1 ...	0 ...	1 ...	1 ...	0 ...
Other Tubercular diseases	8 ...	1 ...	5 ...	0 ...	0 ...	1 ...	1 ...
Cancer Malignant disease	9 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	5 ...	4 ...
Bronchitis	32 ...	16 ...	9 ...	0 ...	0 ...	4 ...	3 ...
Pneumonia	3 ...	0 ...	1 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	2 ...
Pleurisy	2 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	1 ...	1 ...
Other diseases of Respira- tory Organs	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of liver)	2 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	1 ...	1 ...
Venereal Diseases ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...
Premature Birth ...	18 ...	18 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	2 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	2 ...	0 ...
Heart Disease	13 ...	0 ...	0 ...	1 ...	1 ...	8 ...	3 ...
Rhuematic Fever ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...
Accidents	5 ...	1 ...	0 ...	1 ...	0 ...	2 ...	1 ...
Suicides	3 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	3 ...	0 ...
All other causes ...	79 ...	33 ...	6 ...	0 ...	0 ...	14 ...	26 ...
All causes	233 ...	88 ...	35 ...	5 ...	4 ...	57 ...	44 ...

The mortality under one year equals a death-rate of 137·07 per 1,000 of births registered, as compared with that of

1896 ...	123·28	} per 1,000 of Births registered.
1897 ...	164·31	
1898 ...	167·98	
1899 ...	150·38	

The death-rate at ages from sixty-five years and upwards was 2·731 per 1,000, as compared with

1896 ...	3·54	} per 1,000
1897 ...	2·80	
1898 ...	2·09	
1899 ...	2·15	

The second part of my report on the Table marked B deals with cases of infectious diseases notified during the year. From this table it will be seen that 111 cases were reported as compared with 298 cases in the previous year. They are as follows :

Name of Disease.	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 & upwards.
Diphtheria	9 ... 1	2 ... 4	0 ... 2	0 ... 3	20 ... 3	0 ... 0	0 ... 0
Membranous Croup ...	2 ... 1	0 ... 1	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0
Erysipelas	31 ... 1	0 ... 4	0 ... 3	20 ... 3	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0
Scarlet Fever... ..	60 ... 1	28 ... 25	5 ... 1	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0
Enteric Fever	6 ... 0	2 ... 2	0 ... 0	2 ... 2	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0
Puerperal Fever	3 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	2 ... 1	0 ... 0	0 ... 0	0 ... 0
Totals	111	4	32	36	10	26	3

Small Pox. No case of this disease occurred during the year. I am afraid the number of children vaccinated during the year will compare unfavourably with that of the previous year, owing principally to the fact that the guardians have not seen fit to carry out the compulsory clause of the act.

Scarlet Fever. Sixty cases were reported to me, as compared with two hundred and thirty-eight cases in the previous year. At no time did it assume an epidemic character. Every precaution was taken—short of isolating the patients in an infectious diseases' hospital—which we have not got—to prevent its further spread. As will be seen six deaths occurred from this cause.

Typhoid Fever. Six cases were notified during the year, with one death; in this case there is no doubt the disease was contracted abroad. One case arose from contagion, and four of the others from an insanitary condition of the dwellings, which have since been rectified. I am glad to be able to report a continued diminution of cases of this disease. In former years, before the sewerage

of the district and water supply was completed, it was always with us, and formed the principal item in the zymotic death-rate.

- Erysipelas. Thirty-one cases with two deaths were reported during the twelve months.
- Diphtheria and Membranous Croup. In all, nine cases with two deaths occurred during the year. In two instances the disease was contracted outside the district, and in both these cases the diagnosis was confirmed by the finding of the bacilli in the secretion. In two of the other cases it was probably due to an insanitary condition of the dwellings, but in five cases no cause could be traced.
- Measles. Cases of this disease happened in nearly every month of the year, never assuming an epidemic form. Five deaths were registered from this cause.
- Whooping Cough. Was more or less prevalent throughout the year, and thirteen deaths occurred under this head. The difficulty in preventing the sending of children to school whilst suffering from this complaint in its early or later stages is a principal cause of its propagation.
- Bronchitis, Pleurisy and Pneumonia. Thirty-seven deaths were registered from these causes.
- Phthisis. The mortality from this cause has been this year greater than usual. The deaths were thirteen, giving a death-rate per 1,000 of $\cdot 807$.
- Puerperal Fever. Three cases were notified to me during the year with one death. All the cases were attended by a midwife, who was warned to discontinue to attend confinements for a period of six weeks.
- Diarrhoea, Enteritis, and Gastric Catarrh. The mortality from these causes was less than in former years, only four deaths occurring under these heads, and all in children under one year.
- Water Supply. This, I am glad to say, continues to be most satisfactory.

House Accommodation	Throughout the district is satisfactory. During the year a few cases of overcrowding have been rectified, and in two instances owing to their utterly insanitary state, the houses have been closed for habitation.
Sewerage and Drainage.	The system is working satisfactorily, and in those cases in which there has been a nuisance from the street-ventilators, air-shafts have been introduced to the abatement of the nuisance.
Scavenging	Has been carried out satisfactorily. I would again remind the Council of the desirability of still further compelling the adoption of water-closets throughout the district.
Disinfecting Chamber.	I am glad to be able to congratulate the Council upon having at last procured this very necessary means for disinfection.
Infectious Diseases' Hospital.	The scheme for a combined Hospital for this and one of the other districts as arranged by the County Council, is, as far as I am aware, no nearer a consummation than it was twelve months ago. Of its urgent need there can be no doubt, and in this connection it may be pointed out again that the Notification of Diseases Act is more or less useless unless there is a place for isolating cases in the early stage of an epidemic.
Inspection.	I have made several periodic and systematic inspections of the district including the Cowsheds, Dairies, and Slaughter-houses, and have found them in a satisfactory condition. This also applies to bakehouses and workshops. I have by monthly reports and otherwise, informed you as to the health of the district. No case of diseased meat or fish was offered for sale. No occasion arose to take proceedings under the Adulteration of Foods Act, or in the matter of offensive trades.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN HAMILTON, M.D.

TABLE A.

DEATHS during the year 1900, in the Swadlincote District Urban District ; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

AGES AT WHICH DEATHS OCCURRED.

Under 1 year	88
1 and under 5 years	35
5 ,, 15 ,,	5
15 ,, 25 ,,	4
25 ,, 65 ,,	57
65 years and upwards	44

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CAUSES OF DEATH.

			Under 5 years.	6 years & upwards.
Measles	5	0
Scarlet Fever	3	3
Whooping Cough	13	0
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	...	...	0	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	0	1
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	1	2
Diarrhœa	...	...	4	0
Enteritis	...	...	5	3
Puerperal Fever	...	...	0	1
Erysipelas	...	...	1	1
Phthisis	...	...	1	12
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	6	2
Cancer, Malignant Diseases	...	...	0	9
Bronchitis	...	...	25	7
Pneumonia	...	...	1	2
Pleurisy	...	...	0	2
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of liver)	...	...	0	2
Premature Birth	...	...	18	0
Diseases and Accidents of par- turation	...	...	0	2
Heart Diseases	0	13
Accidents	1	4
Suicides	0	3
All other causes	39	40

123 110

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TABLE B.

POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of New Cases of
 INFECTIOUS Sickness coming to the knowledge
 of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year
 1900, in the Swadlincote District Urban District;
 classified according to Diseases, Ages, and
 Localities.

POPULATION.

Last Census	...	...	...	13,889
Estimated to middle of 1900	16,106

BIRTHS.

Births registered during year	641
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INFECTIOUS SICKNESS.

			Under 5 years.	5 years & upwards.
Diphtheria	3	6
Membranous Croup	1	1
Erysipelas	...	...	1	30
Scarlet Fever	...	...	29	31
Enteric Fever	...	...	2	4
Puerperal Fever	...	...	0	3

TABLE C.

Summary of **SANITARY WORK** done in the Inspector of Nuisances Department during the year 1900, in the Urban Sanitary District of Swadlincote.

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCE.				Informal Notices served by Inspector.	Legal Notices served by Authority.	Nuisances abated.
No disconnection of Waste Pipe	...	...	...	4	2	6
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains	...	...	...	20	8	28
Drains obstructed	...	...	...	15	2	17
Insanitary Privies and Ashpits	...	...	...	30	23	53
Insufficient Closet accommodation	...	...	...	33	23	56
Conversion of Privies into W.C's.	...	...	...	15	4	19
Urinals defective	...	...	...	3	2	5
Overcrowding	...	...	...	2	2	4
				122	66	188

All cases of Infectious Disease visited by Inspector, and when necessary by Medical Officer. Disinfectants supplied by Council, disinfecting done by Inspector. Regular inspection of meat, fish, fruit, &c., exposed for sale. No Canal Boats.

TABLE C—*continued.*

DWELLING-HOUSES.—ESTIMATED NUMBER, 3,410.

Number Inspected	...	...	240
Informal Notices to Repair Houses	...	...	6
Number of Houses Repaired	...	...	30
Reported as Unfit for Habitation	...	...	1
Legal Notices to Close Houses	...	...	1
Number of Houses Closed	...	...	1
Number of Infected Houses	...	...	45
Number Disinfected	...	...	45
Inspections of Work in Progress	...	...	150

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Number on Register	...	...	55
Number of Inspections	...	...	229

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on Register	...	...	55
Number of Inspections	...	...	153
Number of Notices served for Infringe- ments of Bye-Laws	...	...	1

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Number on Register	...	...	29
Number of Inspections	...	...	131

WORKSHOPS.

Number on Register	...	...	29
Number of Inspections	...	...	115

Total Number of Inspections made .. 868

JABEZ HARVEY, Inspector of Nuisances.